

March 31, 1976

going to be urban renewal, two blocks. So that would be another point that you'd have to understand that there is faith in this area, there is a human cry and a need for the educational facilities. I would hope that you'd also remember, legislators, that there have been 23 new private buildings ... 23 new buildings in the last ten years in downtown Omaha. So actually what we're asking for, Senator Chambers, is that the people from your community can be able to come down and have service from something like 33 agencies in which they can go to 33 state offices without getting on the Interstate like you and I have to each day, and they can go down into the downtown heart of Omaha, just a little east of Central High School, and they can find out a complaint vs the Banking Department that they might have to deal with, an insurance complaint, they'll all be housed in this building. This will be an educational facility for the 30,000 employees that are available to take off an hour from work, or an hour after work and have an educational facility downtown as many cities have -- Memphis, Tennessee; San Francisco. I hope that on this occasion you will not be lead by Senator Chambers and be part of the self-destruction of something that your largest city, in Omaha, desperately needs and wanted since the year 1968, Senator Chambers. This isn't an overnight dream. This is since 1968. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: If I may I'd like to ask a question of Senator Goodrich. Senator, the other day when we were visiting and before we start I want you to know my problem is not a blue collar, it's a ring around the collar, that's what my problem is. The issue of rent came up. It's my understanding now that the cigarette tax is going to build this building and that rent will be charged for the occupants, whoever they may be, city, county, UNO, voch tech, whoever and that will pay presumable the maintenance and operational costs. Am I alright so far?

SENATOR GOODRICH: Yes.

SENATOR MURPHY: Now then how much of this space will be used by let's say voch tech?

SENATOR GOODRICH: Up to 5,000 feet. They probably.... Their own words are they only want to be participants in the recruitment of this and the job placement office.

SENATOR MURPHY: We have a further provision from 344 that voch tech capital construction would be financed from local assessment, up to 1 mill of their 2½ mills could be used for capital construction. We are now providing capital construction for voch tech with cigarette money.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Is that your question?

SENATOR MURPHY: Well that's my problem.